December 27, 2001

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II Emergency and Remedial Response Division 290 Broadway, 19th Floor, Room W-20 New York, NY 10007-1866

Attention:

Mr. Richard P. Winfield

Remedial Project Manager

Subject:

Centrifuge Literature Search

Passaic River Study Area

Administrative Order on Consent Index No. II-CERCLA-0117

Dear Mr. Winfield:

Please find attached a letter from BBL (including attachments) dated December 13, 2001 reporting on the results of their literature search on continuous flow centrifuges (CFCs). This was one of CLH's Action Items from our CSO meeting on October 18, 2001, as documented in the Meeting Notes submitted on October 23, 2001.

The important information obtained from this exercise is:

- Centrifugation provides the only practical method of collecting suspended solids from large liquid samples.
- No adverse effect on the TOC/chemical composition of the trapped and retained fractions was reported. Results of chemical analyses following separation via other methods generally had fewer detects than those following centrifugation.

In addition, these publications confirmed, and provided more thorough documentation of the experience gained during our test program: CFC collection efficiency depends on flow rate, interruptions in the process, procedures used for removing trapped/retained fractions, and the composition of the suspended sediment.

Sincerely,

Clifford E. Firstenberg

Project Manager

On behalf of Occidental Chemical Corporation

(as successor to Diamond Shamrock Chemicals Company)

attachments (BBL Letter + 7 reprints)